

Message Text

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ACTION SR-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 ORM-03 AID-20 SCA-01

HEW-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /183 W

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P R 151115Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2071

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5453

E.O.11652 GDS

TAGS PFOR SREF UR AU IS

SUBJ TRANSIT THROUGH AUSTRIA OF REFUGEE MIGRANTS EX-USSR

REFS A) VIENNA 8293, B) TEL AVIV 8033, C) GENEVA 5229

1. AT RECENT SOCIAL EVENT GENEVA, THE HEAD OF ICRC EXECUTIVE BOARD, ROGER GALLOPIN, RAISED WITH MISOFF THE MATTER OF TRANSIT THROUGH AUSTRIA OF REFUGEE MIGRANTS EX-USSR PARTICULARLY CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S SUGGESTION AT OCTOBER 5 PRESS CONFERENCE THAT ICRC COULD MEET AUSTRIAN REQUIREMENTS OF SITUATION (REFTEL A).

2. SURMISING USG INTEREST IN MATTER, GALLOPIN SAID HE WISHED TO MAKE US AWARE OF ICRC POSITION. HE STATED THAT WHILE ICRC HAS NOT YET BEEN APPROACHED BY GOA TO PLAY ROLE IN TRANSIT ARRANGEMENTS AUSTRIA, THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE OBLIGED TO REJECT ANY SUCH REQUEST. GALLOPIN EXPLAINED THAT IT IS NOT REPEAT NOT IN ICRC'S COMPETENCE TO ASSUME THIS ROLE AND TO DO SO WOULD PLACE IN JEOPARDY
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ICRC'S TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES IN MIDDLE EAST WHERE ICRC

MAINTAINS RELATIVELY GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL PARTIES TO CONFLICT. THIS CONNECTION GALLOPIN REFERRED TO ICRC'S CONCERN FOR POW'S, POLITICAL DETAINEES, SICK AND WOUNDED VICTIMS OF CONFLICT (BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN), AS WELL AS ICRC'S OTHER HUMANITARIA ACTIVITIES IN AREA.

3. MISOFF THANKED GALLOPIN FOR HIS VIEWS AND ASSURED HIM THAT ICRC POSITION IN MATTER WOULD BE REPORTED TO DEPARTMENT. BASSIN

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